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Mid-February Prices Received by Farmers

Preliminary indications of prices received by Idaho farmers for the month of February showed increases for all wheat, alfalfa hay, potatoes, beef cattle, cows, and calves. Prices decreased for feed barley, all barley and steers & heifers. Prices remained unchanged for dry beans and all milk.

For the U.S., the February All Farm Products Index of Prices Received was 99, up 2 points (2.1 percent) from January. Higher prices for lettuce, broilers, oranges, and hogs were partially offset by lower prices for strawberries, soybeans, corn and tomatoes.

Prices Received by Farmers for Selected Commodities, Feb. 2000-Feb. 2001

| Commodity | Unit | Idaho | | | United States | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | | February 2000 | January 2001 | February 2001 ^{1/} | February 2000 | January 2001 | February 2001 | |
| | | | | | | | Price ^{1/} | % Parity |
| CROPS: | | | | | | | | |
| Alfalfa Hay | Ton | 83.00 | 88.00 | 95.00 | 77.00 | 91.30 | 94.20 | - |
| Barley, All | Bu. | 2.57 | 2.48 | 2.46 | 2.13 | 1.96 | 1.98 | 30 |
| Feed | Bu. | 1.90 | 1.96 | 1.95 | 1.68 | 1.80 | 1.71 | - |
| Malting | Bu. | 2.75 | 10/ | 10/ | 2.43 | 2.14 | 2.26 | - |
| Dry Beans | Cwt. | 14.70 | 16.90 | 16.90 | 15.60 | 15.00 | 14.80 | 30 |
| Potatoes ^{2/} | Cwt. | 4.80 | 3.30 | 3.35 | 5.92 | 4.56 | 5.05 | 36 |
| Fresh ^{3/} | Cwt. | 4.60 | 2.00 | -- | 6.71 | 3.71 | - | - |
| Processing | Cwt. | 5.00 | 4.60 | -- | 5.31 | 5.11 | - | - |
| Wheat, All | Bu. | 2.53 | 2.79 | 2.85 | 2.54 | 2.85 | 2.83 | 29 |
| LIVESTOCK & PRODUCTS: | | | | | | | | |
| Beef Cattle ^{4/} | Cwt. | 64.50 | 68.60 | 70.30 | 67.60 | 74.80 | 74.70 | 46 |
| Cows ^{5/} | Cwt. | 37.00 | 37.80 | 38.40 | 37.10 | 39.00 | 41.50 | -- |
| Steers & Heifers | Cwt. | 72.30 | 80.00 | 79.30 | 71.00 | 79.30 | 78.40 | -- |
| Calves | Cwt. | 92.00 | 102.00 | 103.00 | 105.00 | 108.00 | 108.00 | 51 |
| Lambs | Cwt. | 68.00 | 78.00 | - | 72.00 | 74.10 | - | - |
| Milk, All ^{6/} | Cwt. | 10.40 | 10.80 | 10.80 | 11.80 | 13.20 | ^{7/} 13.10 | ^{8/} 40 |
| Fluid Grade ^{9/} | Cwt. | 10.40 | 10.80 | - | 11.90 | 13.20 | ^{7/} 13.10 | - |
| Mfg. Grade | Cwt. | 10.60 | 10.80 | - | 10.20 | 10.90 | ^{7/} 11.10 | -- |

1/ Mid-Month. 2/ Average price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed and livestock feed. 3/ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock prices. 4/ "Cows" and "steers & heifers" combined. 5/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. 6/ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies. 7/ Fat test percent: all milk 3.75, fluid milk 3.75, mfg. grade 3.90 8/ Seasonally adjusted price as percentage of parity price. 9/ Including milk diverted to manufacturing. 10/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

United States Price Index Summary Table

| Index 1990-92 = 100 | January 2000 | February 2000 | January 2001 | | February 2001 Preliminary |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------|---------------------------|
| | | | Preliminary | Revised | |
| Prices Received | 91 | 93 | 96 | 97 | 99 |
| Prices Paid | 118 | 119 | 122 | 124 | 126 |
| Ratio ^{1/} | 77 | 78 | 79 | 78 | 79 |

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

Idaho Sheep Inventory Unchanged

All sheep and lamb inventory in Idaho on January 1, 2001, totaled 275,000 head, unchanged from last year. Breeding sheep and lamb inventory on January 1, 2001, totaled 236,000 head. Breeding ewes one year old and older totaled 195,000 head, down 5 percent from January 1, 2000. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2001, totaled 39,000. The 2000 lamb crop of 255,000 head was unchanged from 1999.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2001, totaled 6.92 million head, down 2 percent from 2000 and 4 percent below two years ago. The inventory has trended down since 1942 when it reached a peak of 56.2 million head. Breeding sheep inventory declined to 4.93 million head on January 1, 2001, down 5 percent from 5.16 million head on

January 1, 2000. Ewes one year and older, at 4.06 million head, were 4 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2001 totaled 1.99 million head, up 6 percent from January 1, 2000. Market lambs comprised 96 percent of the total. Twenty-four percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 18 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 24 percent 85 - 105, 30 percent were over 105 pounds, and 4 percent were market sheep. The 2000 lamb crop of 4.62 million head was down 2 percent from 1999 to a new record low. The 2000 lambing rate was 109 per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2000, compared with 110 in 1999. The number of operations with sheep during 2000 totaled 66,000, down 1 percent from 1999 and 4 percent from 1998.

Sheep and Lambs: Inventory by Class, January 1, 2000-2001

| State | Total Sheep | | Market Sheep and Lambs | | Breeding Sheep and Lambs | | | | | | Lamb Crop 1/ | |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | Total | | Ewes 1+ | | Replacement Lambs | | 1999 | 2000 |
| | | | | | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 | 2001 | | |
| <i>1,000 Head</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arizona | 155.0 | 132.0 | 89.0 | 67.0 | 66.0 | 65.0 | 58.0 | 55.0 | 5.0 | 7.0 | 45.0 | 40.0 |
| California | 800.0 | 840.0 | 420.0 | 465.0 | 380.0 | 375.0 | 320.0 | 320.0 | 45.0 | 40.0 | 290.0 | 310.0 |
| Colorado | 440.0 | 420.0 | 230.0 | 225.0 | 210.0 | 195.0 | 175.0 | 165.0 | 29.0 | 24.0 | 210.0 | 200.0 |
| IDAHO | 275.0 | 275.0 | 30.0 | 39.0 | 245.0 | 236.0 | 205.0 | 195.0 | 35.0 | 36.0 | 255.0 | 255.0 |
| Montana | 370.0 | 360.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 340.0 | 330.0 | 274.0 | 265.0 | 57.0 | 56.0 | 340.0 | 365.0 |
| Nevada | 90.0 | 95.0 | 12.0 | 12.0 | 78.0 | 83.0 | 58.0 | 68.0 | 18.0 | 13.0 | 58.0 | 65.0 |
| New Mexico | 290.0 | 255.0 | 60.0 | 55.0 | 230.0 | 200.0 | 190.0 | 165.0 | 30.0 | 26.0 | 160.0 | 155.0 |
| Oregon | 210.0 | 245.0 | 59.0 | 94.0 | 151.0 | 151.0 | 121.0 | 120.0 | 24.0 | 24.0 | 150.0 | 150.0 |
| Texas | 1,200.0 | 1,100.0 | 250.0 | 300.0 | 950.0 | 800.0 | 790.0 | 680.0 | 120.0 | 85.0 | 700.0 | 570.0 |
| Utah | 400.0 | 390.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 360.0 | 350.0 | 310.0 | 300.0 | 39.0 | 39.0 | 330.0 | 330.0 |
| Washington | 50.0 | 54.0 | 7.0 | 10.0 | 43.0 | 44.0 | 34.0 | 35.0 | 7.0 | 6.0 | 54.0 | 55.0 |
| Wyoming | 570.0 | 530.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 460.0 | 420.0 | 365.0 | 340.0 | 82.0 | 68.0 | 390.0 | 375.0 |
| U.S. | 7,032.0 | 6,915.0 | 1,868.0 | 1,988.0 | 5,164.0 | 4,927.0 | 4,229.0 | 4,061.0 | 729.5 | 665.0 | 4,733.0 | 4,622.0 |

1/Lamb crop is defined as lambs born in the eastern states and lambs docked or branded in the Western States.

United States Frozen Potato Stocks Up 2 Percent

Frozen stocks of french fries in the United States on January 31, 2001, totaled 921 million pounds, down 4 percent from December 31, 2000, and up 1 percent from January 31, 2000. Other frozen potatoes, at 239 million pounds, increased 4 percent from December 31, 2000 stocks and increased 5 percent from January 31, 2000.

United States stocks of butter on January 31, 2001, totaled 65.9 million pounds, up 173 percent from December 31, 2000 but down 20 percent from January 31, 2000. Of this 65.9 million pounds, the government owned 367 thousand pounds. Stocks of total American cheese totaled 509 million pounds, down 3 percent from December 31, 2000 and down 1 percent from January 31, 2000. The government owned 2.27 million pounds of the American cheese stocks.

| Commodity | Jan 31, | Dec 31, | Jan 31, | 2001 |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|
| | 2000 | 2000 | 2001 | 2000 |
| <i>1,000 Pounds</i> | | | | |
| <i>Percent</i> | | | | |
| POTATOES: | | | | |
| French Fries | 912,149 | 959,035 | 921,171 | 101 |
| Other Frozen | 228,704 | 230,628 | 239,189 | 105 |
| TOTAL | 1,140,853 | 1,189,663 | 1,160,360 | 102 |
| DAIRY | | | | |
| Butter | 82,446 | 24,115 | 65,912 | 80 |
| (Gov't Owned) | 288 | 142 | 367 | 127 |
| American | 511,627 | 522,625 | 508,642 | 99 |
| (Gov't Owned) | 70 | 1,494 | 2,270 | -- |

Idaho Sheep Industry Suffers A \$4.35 Million Death And Theft Loss

Idaho sheep producers lost an estimated 42,000 head of sheep and lambs from all causes, valued at \$4.35 million, in 2000. This compares with losses totaling 43,000 head with a value of \$4.26 million in 1999.

Predator losses at 34.0 percent, accounted for the largest share of losses. Coyotes did the most predator damage, at 9,900 head of sheep and lambs. Losses from coyotes alone were valued at \$1,025,000. Dogs claimed 1,300 head of sheep and lambs valued at \$135,000; bears were responsible for the deaths of 900 head, valued at \$93,000; cougars caused 600 deaths, valued at \$62,000; and fox killed 300 head, valued at \$31,000. Losses

from other and unknown predators, including bobcats, eagles and wolves, accounted for an additional 1,300 head of sheep and lambs.

Disease claimed 5,800 sheep and lambs in 2000. Lambing complications claimed 5,200; weather killed 3,600 head; 1,400 were lost to old age; 1,300 died of poisoning; and 500 were lost to theft. Other causes such as accidents, fire, starvation and dehydration caused an additional 4,000 sheep and lamb deaths during 2000.

All Sheep and Lambs: Death Loss By Cause, Idaho, 1998-00 ^{1/}

| Cause of Loss | Head | | | Percent of Total Losses ^{2/} | | | Value ^{3/ 4/ 5/} | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
| | <i>1,000 Dollars</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Coyote | 11,200 | 9,400 | 9,900 | 28.0 | 21.9 | 23.6 | 1,193 | 930 | 1,025 |
| Dog | 500 | 1,100 | 1,300 | 1.3 | 2.6 | 3.1 | 53 | 109 | 135 |
| Bear | 1,100 | 900 | 900 | 2.8 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 117 | 89 | 93 |
| Cougar | 1,200 | 600 | 600 | 3.0 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 128 | 59 | 62 |
| Fox | 200 | 300 | 300 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 21 | 30 | 31 |
| Other Animals ^{6/} | 100 | 300 | 900 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 2.1 | 11 | 30 | 93 |
| Unknown Predators | 200 | 200 | 400 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 21 | 20 | 41 |
| Total Predators | 14,500 | 12,800 | 14,300 | 36.3 | 29.8 | 34.0 | 1,544 | 1,267 | 1,480 |
| Weather Conditions | 5,100 | 4,800 | 3,600 | 12.8 | 11.2 | 8.6 | 543 | 475 | 373 |
| Disease | 6,500 | 9,400 | 5,800 | 16.3 | 21.9 | 13.8 | 692 | 930 | 600 |
| Poison | 1,500 | 1,100 | 1,300 | 3.8 | 2.6 | 3.1 | 160 | 109 | 135 |
| Lambing Complications | 4,400 | 4,300 | 5,200 | 11.0 | 10.0 | 12.4 | 469 | 426 | 538 |
| Old Age | 1,400 | 1,500 | 1,400 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 149 | 149 | 145 |
| Theft | 300 | 300 | 500 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 32 | 30 | 52 |
| On Back | 100 | 100 | 200 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 11 | 10 | 21 |
| Other Causes ^{7/} | 2,800 | 3,900 | 4,000 | 7.0 | 9.1 | 9.5 | 298 | 386 | 414 |
| Unknown Causes ^{8/} | 3,400 | 4,800 | 5,700 | 8.5 | 11.2 | 13.6 | 362 | 475 | 590 |
| TOTAL | 40,000 | 43,000 | 42,000 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 4,260 | 4,257 | 4,348 |

Sheep and Lambs: Death Loss By Cause, Idaho 1998-00

| Cause of Loss | Sheep | | | | | | All Lambs ^{1/} | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Head | | | Percent of Total Losses ^{2/} | | | Head | | | Percent of Total Losses ^{2/} | | |
| | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
| Coyote | 2,500 | 1,700 | 2,000 | 25.0 | 17.0 | 20.0 | 8,700 | 7,700 | 7,900 | 29.0 | 23.3 | 24.7 |
| Dog | 200 | 500 | 300 | 2.0 | 5.0 | 3.0 | 300 | 600 | 1,000 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 3.1 |
| Bear | 500 | 400 | 300 | 5.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 600 | 500 | 600 | 2.0 | 1.5 | 1.9 |
| Cougar | 300 | 200 | 200 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 900 | 400 | 400 | 3.0 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
| Fox | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 200 | 300 | 300 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| Other Animals ^{6/} | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 100 | 300 | 800 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 2.5 |
| Unknown Predators | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 200 | 200 | 300 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.9 |
| Total Predators | 3,500 | 2,800 | 3,000 | 35.0 | 28.0 | 30.0 | 11,000 | 10,000 | 11,300 | 36.7 | 30.3 | 35.3 |
| Weather Conditions | 100 | 600 | 100 | 1.0 | 6.0 | 1.0 | 5,000 | 4,200 | 3,500 | 16.7 | 12.7 | 10.9 |
| Disease | 1,300 | 1,800 | 1,200 | 13.0 | 18.0 | 12.0 | 5,200 | 7,600 | 4,600 | 17.3 | 23.0 | 14.4 |
| Poison | 800 | 600 | 700 | 8.0 | 6.0 | 7.0 | 700 | 500 | 600 | 2.3 | 1.5 | 1.9 |
| Lambing Complications | 1,200 | 600 | 1,200 | 12.0 | 6.0 | 12.0 | 3,200 | 3,700 | 4,000 | 10.7 | 11.2 | 12.5 |
| Old Age | 1,400 | 1,500 | 1,400 | 14.0 | 15.0 | 14.0 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Theft | 100 | 100 | 200 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 200 | 200 | 300 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.9 |
| On Back | 100 | 100 | 200 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other Causes ^{7/} | 500 | 700 | 600 | 5.0 | 7.0 | 6.0 | 2,300 | 3,200 | 3,400 | 7.7 | 9.7 | 10.6 |
| Unknown Causes ^{8/} | 1,000 | 1,200 | 1,400 | 10.0 | 12.0 | 14.0 | 2,400 | 3,600 | 4,300 | 8.0 | 10.9 | 13.4 |
| TOTAL | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 30,000 | 33,000 | 32,000 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

^{1/}Includes lamb deaths before docking of 16,000 in 1998 and 17,000 in 1999 and 2000. ^{2/}percentages may not add due to rounding. ^{3/}based on average of beginning year and end of year value of head: 1998-\$106.50, 1999-\$99.00, 2000-\$103.50. ^{4/}rounded to nearest 1,000 dollars, ^{5/} Dollar values were rounded to add to total. ^{6/}includes bobcats, eagles, wolves, ^{7/}includes accidents, fire, starvation, dehydration, etc. ^{8/}Exact cause of death unidentifiable. May include some predator loss.

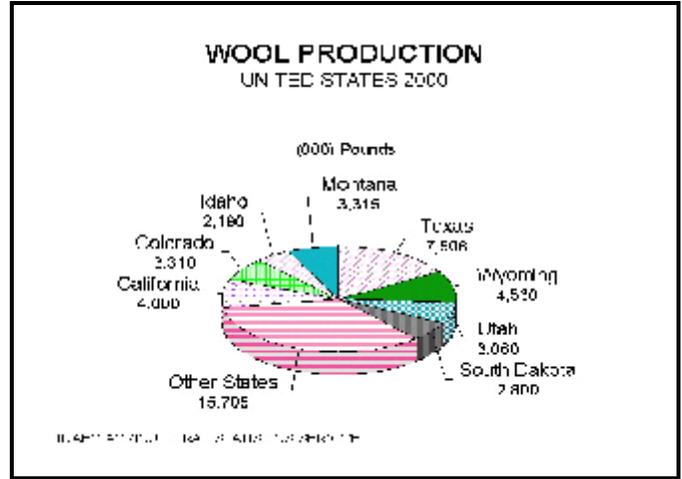
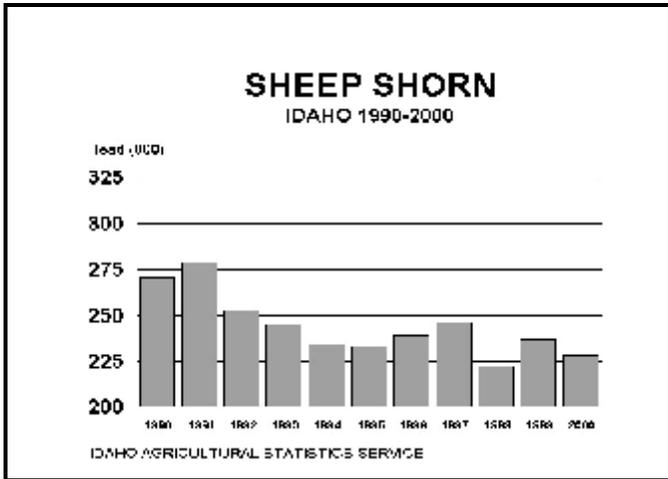
Idaho Wool Production

Idaho wool production in 2000 totaled 2.19 million pounds, down slightly from 1999. The number of sheep shorn, at 228,000 head, was down from 1999's 237,000 head. The average weight per fleece in 2000 was 9.6 pounds.

The total value of 2000 Idaho wool production was 504 thousand dollars, a decrease of 36 percent from 1999. The average price received per pound was 23 cents, down 13 cents per pound from 1999.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2000 was 46.4 million pounds, down slightly from 1999. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 6.14 million head, slightly down from 1999.

The average price paid for wool sold in 2000 was 33 cents per pound for a total value of 15.5 million dollars, down 13 percent from 17.9 million dollars in 1999.



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